open for grassing purposes of cattle of Gujjars and Bakerwalas of district Baramullah and Kupwara;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much grass raising areas (bakes), in the district of Baramullah and district Kupwara has been used for the Gujjar, Bakerwala and local people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. These places fall near LOC and the grazing facility, if allowed, can be misused by militants for egress and ingress.

(c) 18 'Bahaks' in Baramullah District and 10 'Bahaks' in Kupwara District are open to Bakarwals/ Gujjars and local people for grazing purposes.

Arsenic-Free Water

1610. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the proposal for supplying 'arsenic-free water' for various districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposals of the State Government accepted by the Union Government; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the State Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Atomic Energy Commission

1611. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board is answerable to the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board independent from the AEC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), constituted under the Atomic Energy Act (33 of 1962) to carry out regulatory and safety functions envisaged under Section 16, 17 and 23 of the Act, shall be responsible to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and shall send reports periodically to the Chairman, AEC on safety status including observance of safety regulations and standards and implementation of the recommendations. It will also submit an Annual Report of its activities to Chairman, AEC. Appeals against decisions of the AERB shall lie with the Atomic Energy Commission whose decision shall be final.

(c) The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board already enjoys functional independence.

(d) The AERB has the authority to impose restrictions/enforce suspension of the operation of any facility for non-compliance of its directives.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Approval to U.P. Projects

1612. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent some schemes to the Planning Commission for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their locations; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c). A Medium Irrigation Project i.e. Patharal Medium Irrigation Project at revised estimated cost of Rs. 31.66 crores located at District Jhansi covering Gross Command Area and Culturable Command Area of 3772 hectares and 3509 hectares respectively has been received in the Planning Commission through Ministry of Water Resources as Irrigation Projects are not directly sent to the Planning Commission. The Project had been duly recommended by Technical Advisory Committee. The concurrence of State Finance Department and other related details to be complied by the State Government are awaited in the matter. As soon as the compliance from the State Government is received, the project will be considered for investment approval by the Planning Commission.

Another Project on Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation costing $ 100 million to be posed for World Bank Assistance has also been received through Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment. The project is to combine the concept of health